GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2447
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004
INCREASING NUMBER OF HEART PATIENTS
Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the number of patients suffering from heart diseases in the country are increasing ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;

(c) the number of patients who died of heart diseases during the last three years , State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to tackle this disease; and

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has any plan to open up hospitals in district headquarters for treatment of heart disease; and

(g) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): According to All India Institute of Medical Sciences, heart diseases especially coronary heart diseases is on the rise and is also occurring in younger persons (below 40 years of age). This increase is suggested to be linked to change in life style such as decreased physical activity, changing food habits, increase in fat and sugar consumption, low intake of fiber and micro nutrients (folic acid, antioxidants) etc. The exact number of patients died from heart diseases State-wise is not centrally maintained.

(d) to (g): Cardio vascular diseases are managed at various levels in the urban health institutions and rural health care delivery system in the country both in the public and private sectors. Apart from several district level hospitals, which provide secondary level healthcare facilities, premier government hospitals and autonomous institutions like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) Chandigarh provide specialized tertiary care facilities in the field. Since heart diseases are life style related diseases, the Government is also spreading health messages through electronic media to increase public health awareness about heart diseases and healthy living practices.